

# Questions Booklet

**January 1997**



# English 33

## Part B: Reading

## Grade 12 Diploma Examination

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January 1997  
**English 33** Part B: Reading  
**Questions Booklet**  
Grade 12 Diploma Examination

*Description*

**Part B: Reading** contributes 50% of the total English 33 Diploma Examination mark.

There are 70 questions in the Questions Booklet and 8 reading selections in the Readings Booklet.

*Time: 2 hours. You may take an additional 1/2 hour to complete the examination.*

*Instructions*

- Be sure that you have an English 33 Questions Booklet **and** an English 33 Readings Booklet.
- You may **not** use a dictionary, thesaurus, or other reference materials.
- On the answer sheet provided, use **only** an **HB** pencil to mark the correct or best answer for each question. Fill in the circle that corresponds to your answer. For example:

Which month has 31 days?

- A. February
- B. April
- C. November
- D. December

Answer Sheet

(A) (B) (C) ●

- Do not fold the answer sheet.
- Mark only one answer for each question.
- If you change an answer, erase your first mark completely.
- Answer all questions.



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**I. Read the excerpt from “Vulcan” on pages 1 to 3 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 1 to 9.**

1. The DiCesares’ **main** concern about Duane is that he will prove to be
  - A. lazy
  - B. arrogant
  - C. dishonest
  - D. incompetent
  
2. Which statement suggests that Duane has “ ‘been a truck driver before’ ” (lines 24 to 25)?
  - A. “ ‘Thinks he got a good deal’ ” (line 21)
  - B. “ ‘He was washing cars in PA’ ” (line 24)
  - C. “ ‘he knows how to split-shift’ ” (line 25)
  - D. “ ‘He says he wants to go up on the rigs and be a driller’ ” (line 26)
  
3. When the narrator says “ ‘That’ll be the day’ ” (line 27), he is being
  - A. critical of Duane
  - B. confused by Duane
  - C. furious with Duane
  - D. friendly toward Duane
  
4. In lines 45 to 51, the narrator reveals a side of his character that is
  - A. immature
  - B. pragmatic
  - C. indifferent
  - D. sentimental

*Continued*

5. In lines 57 to 63, the description of the harvest conveys an atmosphere **best** described as
- A. calm
  - B. hectic
  - C. oppressive
  - D. constrained
6. In the narrator's statement "I quit because I was tired of being surrounded by trash" (line 76), the word "trash" **most likely** refers to
- A. persons of poor character
  - B. environmental destruction
  - C. unsafe working conditions
  - D. buildings of poor construction
7. According to the narrator, Duane could "never be a driller" (line 81) because he is too
- A. weak
  - B. young
  - C. ignorant
  - D. extroverted
8. Phrases that convey the idea that Duane is an undesirable worker are
- A. " 'stuck with' " (line 19) and " 'someone like that' " (line 55)
  - B. " 'washing cars' " (line 24) and " 'wants to go up on the rigs' " (line 26)
  - C. " 'get along together' " (line 30) " 'give him a chance' " (line 56)
  - D. " 'just a kid' " (line 35) and " 'a little rough' " (line 35)
9. The narrator's feelings toward Duane are **best** described as
- A. angry
  - B. fearful
  - C. envious
  - D. ambivalent

**II. Read “The fish with a coin in its mouth” on pages 4 and 5 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 10 to 17.**

10. The allusion in the poem’s title suggests that the poem is about
- A. a false situation
  - B. an ordinary experience
  - C. a miraculous happening
  - D. an unfortunate delusion
11. The **best** indication that the speaker is unaware of what brought this childhood memory to consciousness is
- A. “A picture pops into my head” (line 1)
  - B. “I’d have thought you’d / have forgotten that” (lines 29–30)
  - C. “And so I had / —until one night / after thirty-seven years” (lines 31–33)
  - D. “for no apparent reason, / it all came back” (lines 34–35)
12. The quotation that suggests that the speaker is drawing an adult conclusion about his childhood memory is
- A. “A ship, / huge coils of rope” (lines 4–5)
  - B. “great sweet-smelling piles / of lumber” (lines 7–8)
  - C. “masts reaching for the sky” (line 8)
  - D. “a pit of darkness that must be / an open hatch” (lines 9–10)
13. The ability of the human mind to record precise detail is **most clearly** indicated in
- A. “masts reaching for the sky” (line 8)
  - B. “Many people are there” (line 11)
  - C. “a small boy in shorts” (line 16)
  - D. “a blue beret” (line 17)

*Continued*

14. The repetition of the word “perhaps” in lines 18 to 21 indicates that memories are often
- A. realistic
  - B. profound
  - C. indistinct
  - D. overwhelming
15. The transition from past recollection to present experience occurs in
- A. line 15
  - B. line 22
  - C. lines 29 and 30
  - D. lines 34 and 35
16. The phrase “or perhaps that is only how it feels” (line 21) suggests that memories are
- A. usually clear and precise
  - B. often too painful to express
  - C. unaffected by circumstances
  - D. influenced by impression and emotion
17. The speaker’s remembered impression is that many people came to see the *Bluenose* because they wanted to
- A. take part in a momentous occasion
  - B. be involved in a crowd activity
  - C. support a public function
  - D. enjoy a family outing

**III. Read the excerpt from *Red Flag at Evening* on pages 6 to 10 in your Readings Booklet and answer questions 18 to 27.**

18. In line 1, “the day” that Susan refers to is the day that
- A. Elmer should meet Mr. Hagedorn
  - B. Elmer and Bessie should be married
  - C. Bessie will visit her Aunt Lillian in Red Deer
  - D. Bessie and Elmer first began “keeping company”
19. The fact that Bessie begins many of her speeches with words such as “Oh” (line 2), “Oh, no” (line 4), and “Oh, dear” (line 16) suggests that she is feeling
- A. guilty
  - B. ashamed
  - C. surprised
  - D. apprehensive
20. When Bessie responds “No!” (line 50), her tone is one of
- A. doubt
  - B. alarm
  - C. self-assurance
  - D. determination
21. The fact that Elmer asks “What’s she got in her bonnet?” (line 59) suggests that he is
- A. afraid of Susan
  - B. shocked by Susan
  - C. irritated with Susan
  - D. concerned about Susan
22. The stage direction “*Oblivious of her tenderness*” (line 95) indicates that Elmer is
- A. embarrassed
  - B. insensitive
  - C. confused
  - D. discreet

*Continued*

23. The statement that shows **most clearly** that Susan has a strong influence on Bessie is
- A. “Mr. Hagedorn sounds a lot more suitable to you than Elmer Engeltree, but I suppose you’ve got used to Elmer” (lines 11–12)
  - B. “Now, Bessie, if you and Elmer get things settled, I won’t be interfering” (lines 19–20)
  - C. “*Finally her eyes drop before the determination in SUSAN’s eyes*” (lines 25–26)
  - D. “*As BESSIE goes to the door, SUSAN gets a picture of a wedding party from the table and puts it in a conspicuous place on the mantle*” (lines 29–31)
24. Elmer’s literal-mindedness is indicated **most clearly** when he says
- A. “Not bad, Susan, not bad. I don’t spare the shoe leather” (line 44)
  - B. “What have you got a fire in May for?” (lines 63–64)
  - C. “Hum? If you mean mosquitoes are out, Bessie, why don’t you say so?” (lines 68–69)
  - D. “Lots of things I want before I buy me a car” (line 93)
25. In this excerpt, the red flag symbolizes
- A. love
  - B. communism
  - C. a time for action
  - D. a desire to make peace

*Continued*

26. Over the course of the excerpt, Bessie's attitude toward Elmer changes from
- A. amusement to disgust
  - B. consideration to anger
  - C. generosity to selfishness
  - D. familiarity to uncertainty
27. Which of the following statements **best** indicates the theme developed in this excerpt?
- A. Poor advice can create unfortunate consequences.
  - B. Too much frankness can put pressure on relationships.
  - C. Meaningful communication is essential in relationships.
  - D. Too many dissimilar interests can make people incompatible.

- VI. Read the excerpt from “Battle for Your Brain” on pages 11 to 13 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 28 to 36.**
- 28.** In lines 1 to 23, the combined effect of words such as “miscreants” and “semi-sentient” and phrases such as “low end of the food chain” is to imply that Beavis and Butt-head are
- A. spoiled
  - B. amusing
  - C. intelligent
  - D. unwholesome
- 29.** The “battle to play road hog on the Information Highway” (lines 53 to 54) refers to the struggle for
- A. dominance of the electronic media
  - B. superior knowledge of technology
  - C. increasingly high profit margins
  - D. easy access to information
- 30.** In context, the word “propriety” (line 57) means
- A. correctness of behaviour
  - B. originality of material
  - C. exciting entertainment
  - D. artistic integrity
- 31.** In the context of lines 58 to 64, the use of the word “clutter” (line 62) suggests that the writer believes most television programs to be
- A. meaningful in outlook
  - B. entertaining for their viewers
  - C. inconsistent in their approach
  - D. indistinguishable from each other

*Continued*

32. That the “network’s new contender, ‘Rocko’s Modern World,’ wallows down a similarly inspired low road” (lines 88 to 90) indicates the program’s
- A. inconsistent quality
  - B. questionable taste
  - C. technical excellence
  - D. innovative accomplishments
33. In context, the word “totems” (line 104) means
- A. enemies
  - B. destroyers
  - C. customers
  - D. representatives
34. Despite his initial delight, Lars Ulrich is also “alarmed” to see Beavis wearing a Metallica T shirt (lines 168 to 174) because he realizes that
- A. Metallica record sales may decline
  - B. Beavis reflects an element of present-day reality
  - C. Beavis should not be considered a fan of rock music
  - D. Metallica T shirts look ridiculous on a cartoon character
35. The statement “the ship of fools is now sailing at full capacity” (lines 176 to 177) means that
- A. cable TV is reaping high profits
  - B. “loser TV” is firmly established
  - C. TV audiences crave entertainment
  - D. TV networks are highly competitive
36. The phrase from the excerpt that illustrates a contradiction of terms is
- A. “ingrained dumbness” (line 72)
  - B. “‘overeducated guys’ ” (line 134)
  - C. “intelligently dumb” (line 145)
  - D. “shared experience” (line 153)

- V. Read the first draft of Robin's letter on pages 14 and 15 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 37 to 43.
37. In paragraph 1, Robin's addition of the question "Do you remember . . . Nalwen?" in conjunction with the short sentence "But enough of that!" provides
- A. irony of tone
  - B. formality of style
  - C. transition between ideas
  - D. persuasiveness across topics
38. Which of the following rewritten versions of sentence five in paragraph 2 **best** corrects the punctuation?
- A. The title, sure threw me but, when I read it I knew it was right on.
  - B. The title sure threw me, but when I read it, I knew it was right on.
  - C. The title sure threw me but when I read it I knew, it was right on.
  - D. The title sure threw me but when, I read it I knew it was right on.
39. The combination of words from paragraph 2 that contains *two* errors in usage is
- A. "were given" (sentence one)
  - B. "so on" (sentence three)
  - C. "threw me" (sentence five)
  - D. "real good" (sentence seven)
40. In paragraph 3, Robin adds quotation marks to the phrase "animated miscreants" because the phrase
- A. contains a new idea
  - B. is difficult to understand
  - C. contains gross exaggeration
  - D. is taken directly from the article

*Continued*

41. In the revised first line of paragraph 4, Robin has made a change intended to correct
- A. a run-on sentence
  - B. a sentence fragment
  - C. an ambiguous modifier
  - D. an improper possessive
42. In the revised first sentence of paragraph 4, an error that Robin has yet to correct is revealed in his use of the word
- A. serious
  - B. purpose
  - C. its
  - D. relate
43. Homonyms are words that have the same pronunciation but different meanings. A homonym that Robin has used incorrectly is
- A. “threw” (paragraph 2, sentence five)
  - B. “knew” (paragraph 2, sentence five)
  - C. “there” (paragraph 3, sentence one)
  - D. “one” (paragraph 4, sentence one)

- VI. Read the excerpt from *Life and Death in Shanghai* on pages 16 to 18 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 44 to 52.
44. By assigning a number to Nien Cheng, the prison officials intend to
- A. deny her dignity
  - B. lessen her anxiety
  - C. decrease her confusion
  - D. undermine her reputation
45. The **main** purpose of the prison procedures described by Nien Cheng is to
- A. torture the prisoners
  - B. ridicule the prisoners
  - C. exhaust the prisoners
  - D. demoralize the prisoners
46. That Nien Cheng is imprisoned for being rich, yet is allowed to purchase cleaning supplies for herself, is an example of
- A. irony
  - B. hyperbole
  - C. symbolism
  - D. foreshadowing
47. The depression that Nien Cheng suffers during her imprisonment is caused **mainly** by the
- A. harassing light bulb
  - B. isolation imposed upon her
  - C. constant presence of the guards
  - D. disgusting quality of the prison food

*Continued*

48. Totalitarian governments demand the complete subservience of the individual to the state. Which of the following conditions of Nien Cheng's confinement **most clearly** evokes the qualities of a totalitarian government?
- A. The assigning of a number (lines 6–8)
  - B. The filthy room (lines 12–21)
  - C. The formality of the guards (lines 35–36)
  - D. The inferior food (lines 50–55)
49. In context, the word “tentative” (line 52) means
- A. exaggerated
  - B. determined
  - C. uncertain
  - D. eager
50. Nien Cheng's problems with breathing (lines 65 to 68) are **most likely** caused by
- A. bitterness
  - B. anxiety
  - C. hatred
  - D. anger
51. By watching the spider as it constructs its web, Nien Cheng **mainly** gains
- A. appreciation of craftsmanship
  - B. forgetfulness of time
  - C. scientific knowledge
  - D. spiritual revival
52. Nien Cheng's use of rhetorical questions in lines 78 to 81 serves to convey her
- A. own imperfection
  - B. sense of wonder
  - C. feelings of doubt
  - D. scholarly background

- VII. Read “The Rattlesnake” on page 19 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 53 to 59.
53. A simile is used for descriptive purposes in the phrase
- A. “He’s asleep, or dead” (line 1)
  - B. “But now the head pulls back” (line 8)
  - C. “suddenly the slope erupts / in rattle” (lines 10–11)
  - D. “we plant our feet / carefully as cats” (lines 25–26)
54. The single word “Nothing” (line 7) serves **primarily** to create
- A. suspense
  - B. contrast
  - C. overstatement
  - D. understatement
55. The word in the poem that **best** contrasts with the word “Nothing” in line 7 is
- A. “prod” (line 6)
  - B. “erupts” (line 10)
  - C. “rattle” (line 11)
  - D. “skids” (line 11)
56. The observers smile (line 12) because they
- A. are surprised that the snake is alive
  - B. are amused by the snake’s movements
  - C. feel relieved and enjoy a sense of power
  - D. feel remorseful and are determined to respect nature
57. The statement “We are grateful—Not only for his size but for his venom” (lines 16 to 17) suggests that the observers are
- A. thankful that the snake seems harmless
  - B. amused about their impulsive behaviour
  - C. frustrated that they did not see a mature snake
  - D. concerned that they may have harmed this helpless creature

*Continued*

58. The statement “He has no idea how he will grow for us in the miles back home” (lines 18 to 19) suggests that the
- A. observers will exaggerate their encounter
  - B. snake will mature very quickly because it is spring
  - C. snake will appear again somewhere along the journey
  - D. observers will travel a great distance before they reach home
59. The **main** idea of this poem is that people
- A. often take delight in teasing animals
  - B. are frightened by many aspects of nature
  - C. often exaggerate reality for the sake of excitement
  - D. are over-confident when encountering dangerous creatures

- VIII. Read the excerpt from “The Huntsman” on pages 20 to 24 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 60 to 70.**
- 60.** The first paragraph (lines 1 to 4) establishes an atmosphere that is
- A. foreboding
  - B. optimistic
  - C. exciting
  - D. evil
- 61.** Given what the reader learns about Yegor, the description of his clothing (lines 5 to 11) suggests that he would like to be associated with
- A. fine gentlemen
  - B. village craftsmen
  - C. average huntsmen
  - D. hard-working peasants
- 62.** The phrase “knitting his brows” (line 18) suggests that Yegor is momentarily
- A. embarrassed
  - B. exhausted
  - C. perplexed
  - D. disgusted
- 63.** That Pelageya tries to peer into Yegor’s face (line 20) suggests that she is
- A. angry about Yegor’s absence
  - B. eager to see how Yegor will react
  - C. embarrassed about Yegor’s appearance
  - D. confident about Yegor’s feelings for her
- 64.** After he is greeted by Pelageya, Yegor assumes a manner of
- A. courtesy
  - B. friendliness
  - C. detachment
  - D. sentimentality

*Continued*

65. When Yegor states that he has been “spoiled” (line 50), he indicates his belief that he is *unable* to live as a
- A. peasant
  - B. husband
  - C. huntsman
  - D. gentleman
66. The fact that Yegor believes himself superior to Pelageya is **most clearly** indicated in
- A. “‘There’s a fine pair for you!’ ” (line 94)
  - B. “‘It wasn’t my fault we got married’ ” (line 96)
  - C. “‘A huntsman marrying a cow girl!’ ” (line 101)
  - D. “‘You were not a serf—you could have refused!’ ” (lines 102–103)
67. Yegor’s concentration on the passage of the wild ducks (lines 107 to 109) is paralleled in
- A. “‘Again there was silence. From a field which had been reaped there came the first soft notes of a song, which broke off abruptly’ ” (lines 115–116)
  - B. “‘Yegor put his cap on the back of his head, made a clicking noise with his tongue to summon the dog, and went on his way’ ” (lines 129–130)
  - C. “‘As though he felt the force of her gaze, he stopped and looked back. . . . He did not speak, but from his face and the thrust of his shoulders Pelageya knew he wanted to say something to her. She went up to him timidly, gazing at him imploringly’ ” (lines 134–137)
  - D. “‘She stood there pale and motionless as a statue, following closely each one of his footsteps. Soon the red color of his shirt melted into the dark color of his trousers and she could no longer follow his footsteps’ ” (lines 141–144)
68. The statement “Her eyes ran over the tall, lean figure of her husband, and caressed and fondled him” (lines 133 to 134) is effective because it creates
- A. pathos
  - B. humour
  - C. mystery
  - D. contrast

*Continued*

69. The description of the road as “straight as a taut strap” (line 141) is effective because it represents
- A. Yegor’s feelings of guilt
  - B. Yegor’s natural tendency to violence
  - C. the geographical features of the landscape
  - D. the tension in the relationship between Yegor and Pelageya
70. In the context of the whole story, the contrast in line 8 between the “green of the clearing” on the right and a “golden sea of ripened rye” on the left of Yegor’s pathway *thematically* suggests the precarious balance between
- A. intuition and reasoning
  - B. freedom and obligation
  - C. curiosity and apathy
  - D. love and hatred



# *English 33: Part B*

*January 1997*

